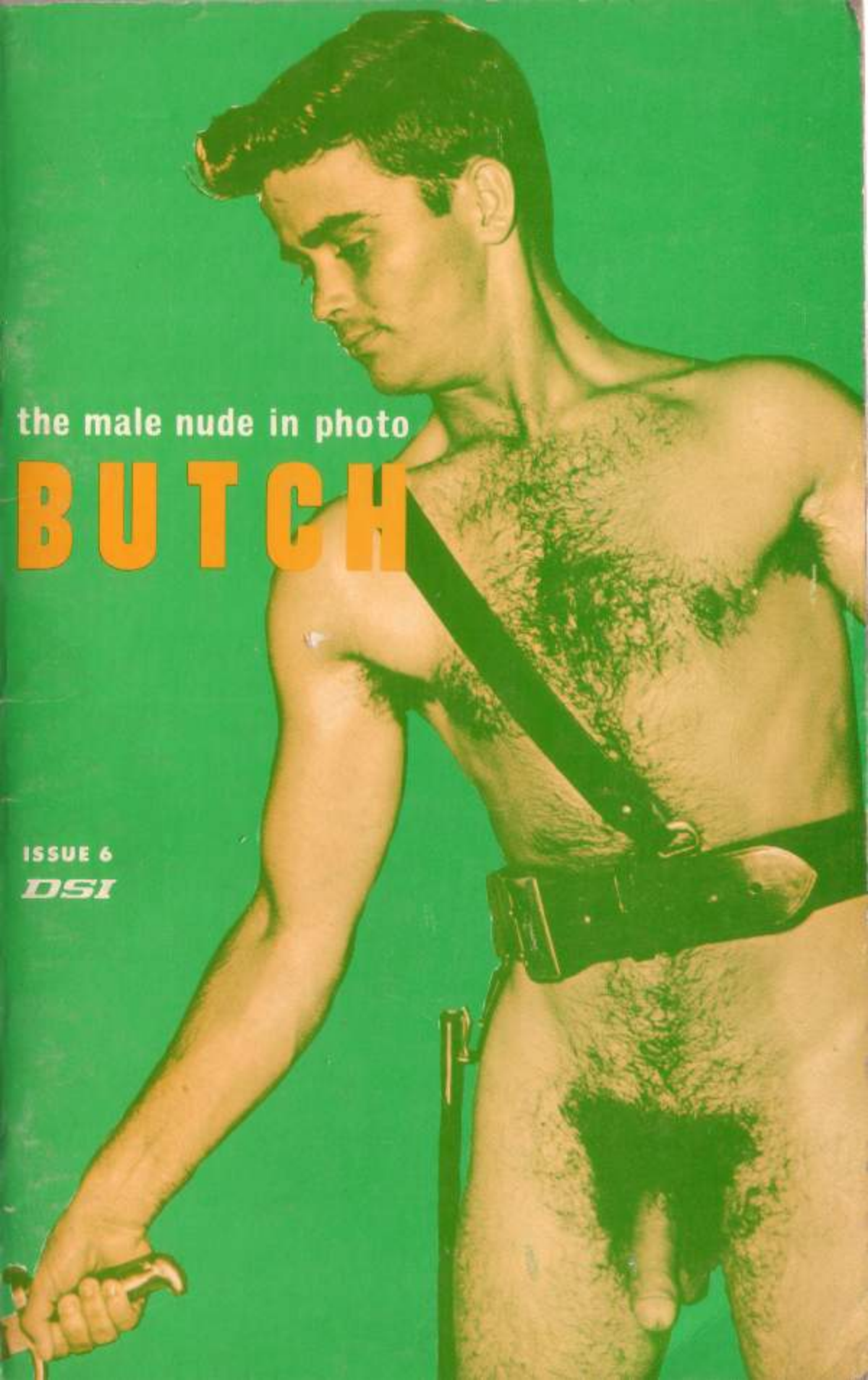


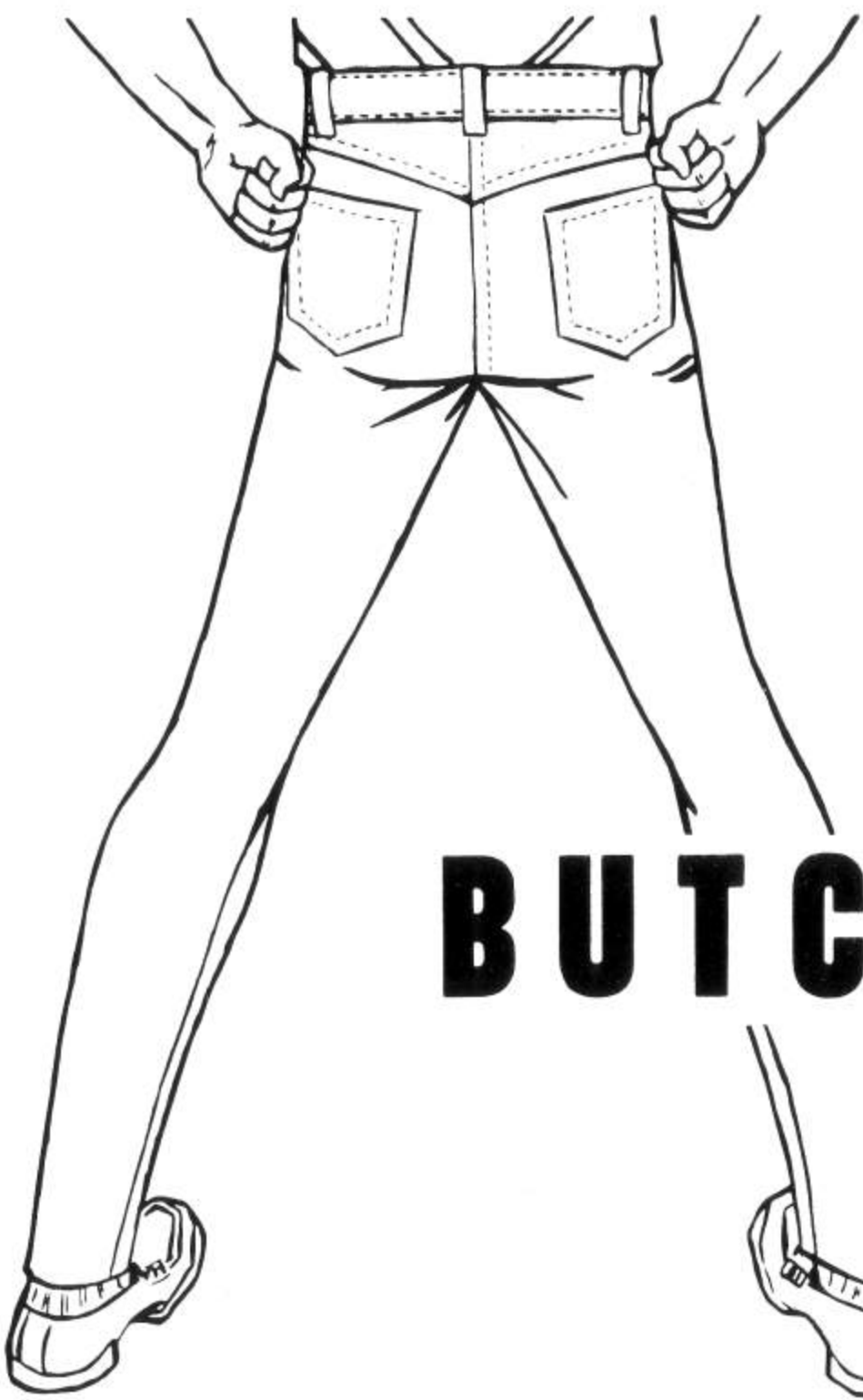


the male nude in photo

BUTCH

ISSUE 6

DSI



6

BUTCH

the male figure in photo and drawing

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BUTCH is the international naturalist magazine. It is dedicated to the furtherance of realism in art, photography, and literature – without idealization of the beautiful or avoidance of the ugly. ■ The photography, art, and articles contained in BUTCH are offered to illuminate the conviction that the body of man is clean and wholesome and that there can be no obscenity in God's handiwork. ■ It is our belief that the ability of man to be at one with himself, to have a high opinion of the portions of his body so long rejected and degraded, will make him stronger, not weaker; more moral instead of less moral. ■ BUTCH hopes to do its part to bring about a world wherein man will, from the moment of birth, accept himself – not with guilt and shame; but with esteem and serenity – in his totality as God made him.

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THE PUBLISHER'S CREED

The publishers of BUTCH hold that all of us, every citizen, have a common ground to defend. There is no place in our society for efforts, whether legal or extra-legal, to coerce the taste of others, to confine adults to reading and viewing matter deemed suitable for children, or to inhibit the efforts of writers and photographers to achieve artistic expression. Those concerned with freedom have the responsibility of seeing to it that each individual book or publication, whatever its contents, is given the freedom of expression granted to it by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America.

DSI

Philosophy for the Progressive

In a complicated world there is a widespread tendency to overlook the simple things. No one asks simple questions - we're living in the twentieth century. But the person who can question the most fundamental things will often discover gross disregard of rudimentary principles.

Take, for example, the story of the businessman who was engaged by a large railroad company which wanted to return to a happier state of affairs wherein it profits could once more be stated in black ink. One day as the businessman was looking over a switching yard, he happened to notice that each bolt used in joining the rails extended three to four inches beyond the nut, in other words, twice the size necessary. Upon inquiring of the company's officials, he found there was no reason for it. It was sheer waste. He ordered a more appropriate size to be used in the future, thereby saving many tons of metal and thousands of dollars.

Doubters not Radicals

And so in each generation there is a certain segment of the population which questions the very foundations of our living habits. They do not accept blindly what everyone takes for granted. They are not radicals, they merely seek logical grounds for common behavior. Finding none they initiate a change as did our businessman.

One such group of people initiated the nudist movement in America in 1929. This was not exactly a project of purely creative thinking since activities of this sort have always been present to some extent, most notably

in Germany during recent years.

Nudism is not a group movement, however. It is a movement of individuals who are personally convinced of its rightness. Within each nudist there is a strong conviction that the pattern of life he seeks to live is not only right in the eyes of God and the just, but more so than the conventional mode of life. It is this firm belief, arrived at only after a slow, logical, mental process which causes an ordinary citizen to embrace a manner of living which is completely foreign to his living habits and early training.

Our businessman would approach this subject with the simple question: Why do we wear clothes? Some of his answers would probably be for protection against weather and occupational hazards and adornment. These are perfectly logical answers and to this point our nudist friends concur. But what of our periods of leisure and play? Leisure time should be a time for comfort. Most people recognize this by removing tie and shoes or other particularly annoying articles, but tolerate the rest. This makes sense to the non-nudist only.

Relaxation Imperative for Good Health

When we observe a group of people participating in some sport, it is entirely possible that one of the players is fully dressed and another clad only in shorts with various states of dress or undress existing between the two extremes. The fully-clad participant may look upon his shorts-clad comrade as a bit of a sensationalist, but probable not since today most of us complacently accept any type of dress down to the briefest of shorts, but there we abruptly draw the line. Can we support that by reason?

One of our most popular sports in summer is swimming for which millions of suits are sold each year to accomodate the swimmers. The suits, however, are not only unnecessary to the enjoyment of swimming but are actually an annoyance. Medical opinion suggests that if one wishes to lounge on the beach, he should do so

before entering the water, because if the bather takes a dip and then does his loafing he is creating a very suitable abode for fungus organisms in the area kept moist by his suit. Yet we all spend considerable amounts of money in order to wear bathing suits.

All this suggests that there are times when clothes are not only undesirable, but sometimes even detrimental. However, if these were the only considerations there would probably be no nudists. It takes positive advantages to induce people to make changes.

Since our society does not spend its leisure or play time unclothed, we can only surmise what the benefits of such a nudist utopia would be. It will suffice, however, to study some of the advantages of nudism as it exists today.

Nudism has Many Benefits

Consider first some of the mental benefits. Only recently the Benjamin Franklin Clinic of the Pennsylvania Hospital in Philadelphia advised businessmen in general to take it easier. Examinations have shown that in one group, eighty per cent of businessmen needed medical, surgical, or psychiatric treatment. The major reason given was that they do not relax properly, but keep their problems of the day on their minds in off-duty hours.

Proper relaxation is easy to achieve at a nudist park. At camp the accent is on play and recreation and the nearness to nature makes any day-to-day problem seem unsensational. Here is living that makes life the 'bowl of cherries' of their youth. For indeed, there is a complete return to youthful ideas and pursuits, such as taking part in games and sports with friendly competition the driving force, outdoor exercise in the fresh air, hikes in the woods and everything that made childhood so carefree and happy. If there is such a thing as the fountain of youth, surely it flows abundantly in nudist camps.

When we look at the statistics on divorce and sex crimes, we may conclude that all is not right in the present treatment of sex. Nudists suggest that the trouble

may lie in our mystic treatment of a non-mystic subject. Car manufacturers have made good use of a similar scheme. They announce the unveiling of their new models several weeks in advance and then build up an advertising campaign in an effort to build up suspense. Usually they are quite successful in creating high interest but when the new models are shown there is always some degree of let-down because they are so much like last year's models or they are not as wonderful as anticipated from the advertisements.

Sex Abnormal to Some

We play much the same little game with our children. All through childhood they hear stories which either play up sex in grand style or give it a meaning of utter filth. To the child this contrary testimony on a subject about which he knows nothing is highly confusing. Even if the parents do give proper indoctrination on the subject, the innocent child begins to attach undue mystery to sex because for some reason, unknown to him, all his friends and relatives may at some time expose every part of their body but never the genital region. This practice of concealing the sexual organs is carried on with such brutal efficiency that some children suspect their own genitals are abnormal since they have no criterion by which to judge. If the child unknowingly wanders into the bathroom where one of his parents is bathing, he is promptly ejected and told in no uncertain terms he must not repeat the performance. This secret treatment of things sexual arouses a curiosity long before the child would naturally have the slightest interest. The build-up of suspense continues for well over a decade and makes the campaigns of our car manufacturers appear infinitesimal by comparison. It is this general policy of our society which makes our young people prime prospects for cheesecake magazines, girlie shows and red light districts. It doesn't require too great a stretch of the imagination to realize that it may also contribute to the country's sex crimes and high divorce rate. What a dastardly trick to play on our own children.

If this current policy is right, then nudism is wrong.

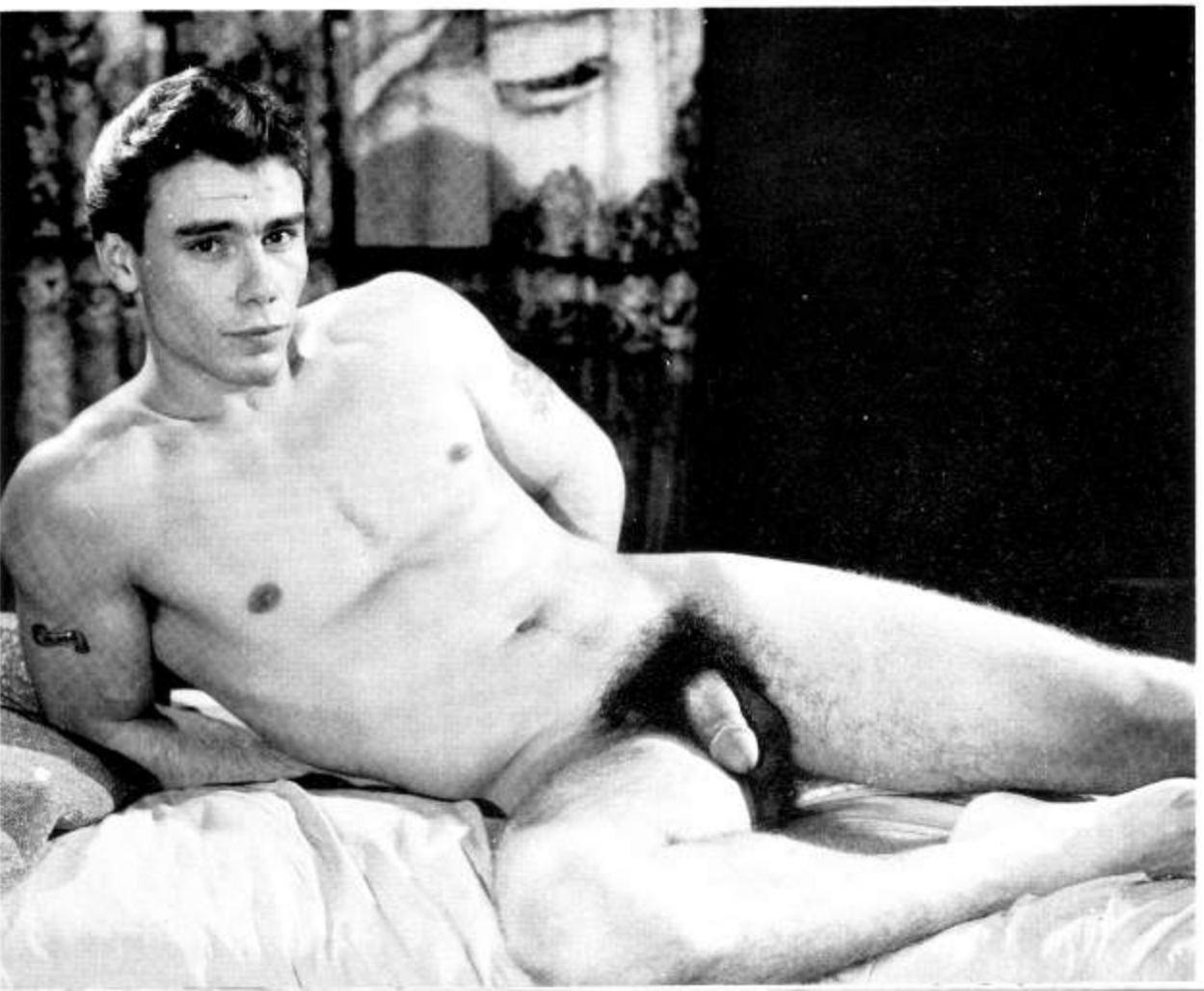
Some of the most valuable contributions of nudism to the individual are the physical benefits. At the present day camps the accent is on fresh air, exercise and clean living. There is also a greater consciousness of the body that creates a high incentive toward physical improvement. Nudists are not a group of people with perfect physiques and figures. In fact, the opposite could be more easily proved to be true, but the important point is many of them do try to improve themselves in symmetry and proportion. Some of the greatest joys of living result from self-improvement. The more disproportionate a body is, the greater the opportunity for improvement and hence the greater the possible satisfaction. Since few people approach physical perfection, no one need make apology for his bodily appearance, with or without clothes.

Man Created in God's Image

The feeling of shame in connection with the nude appearance is similarly unfounded. God created man in his own image, and photographers, artists and sculptors have long realized that probably the most beautiful of earthly objects is the human form. Feelings of shame relative to the body or any part of it are either learned or come as the results of shameful behavior.

In general, nudism strongly bolsters a belief in the divine. Living close to nature in a natural manner gives one the conviction that not only is there a Supreme Being, but that he is close at hand. To many people, the ideas of God and Nature are inseparable. Here is the opportunity to develop a keen appreciation for nature and a knowledge that God exists which comes through feeling, not through instruction.

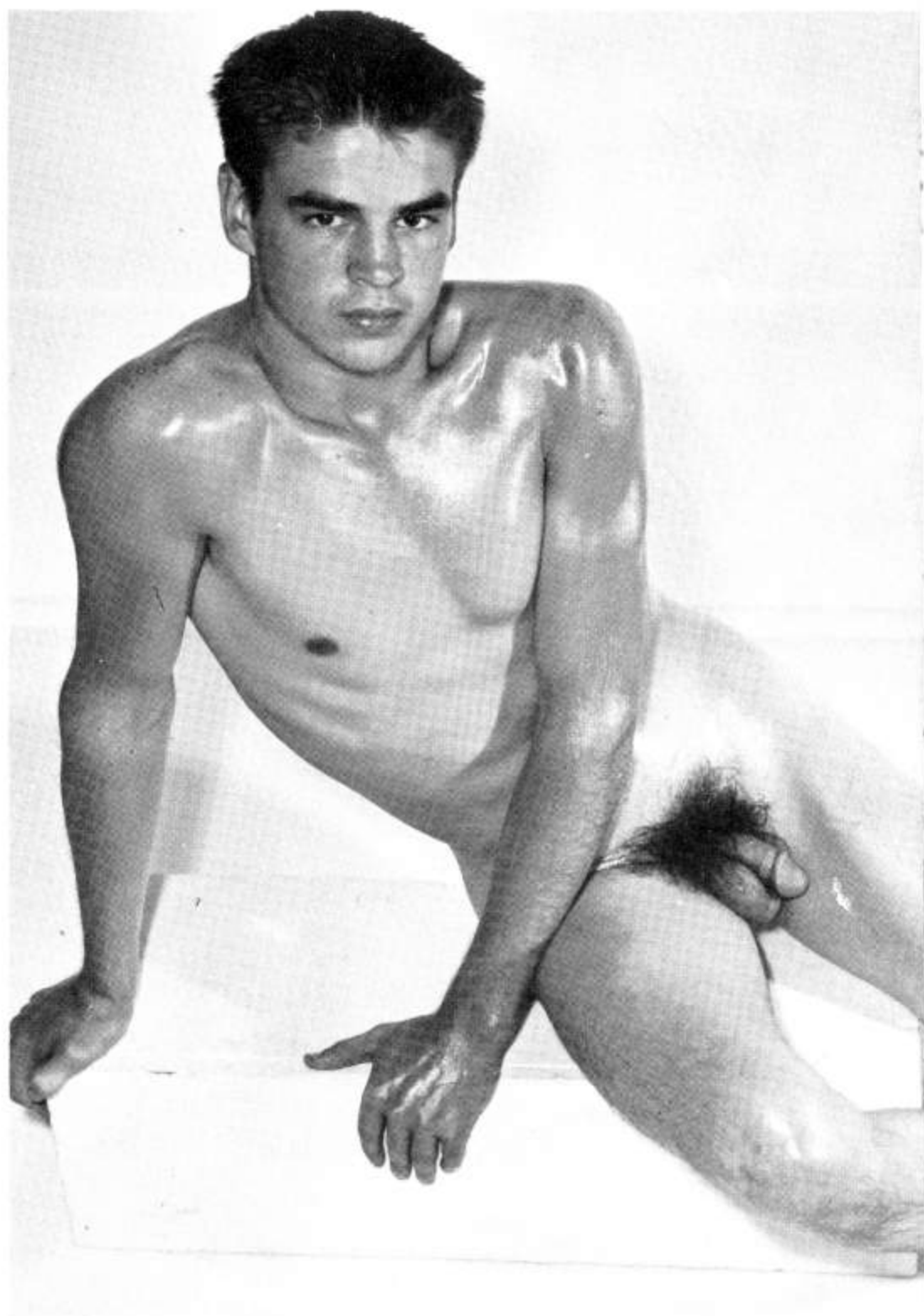
These are a few of the reasons people become nudist. There are many others. It is a field worthy of investigation by every person interested in self and family improvement. The idea is still revolutionary to many people, but there are large issues at stake and the benefits are many for those who will become nudists.



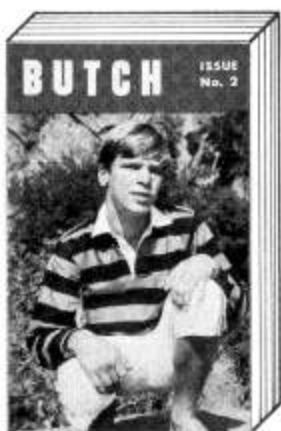
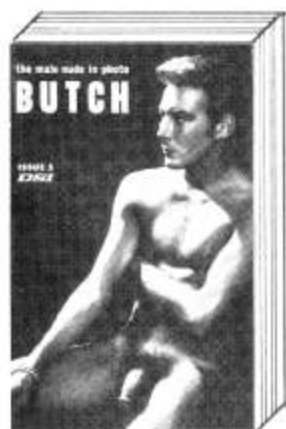
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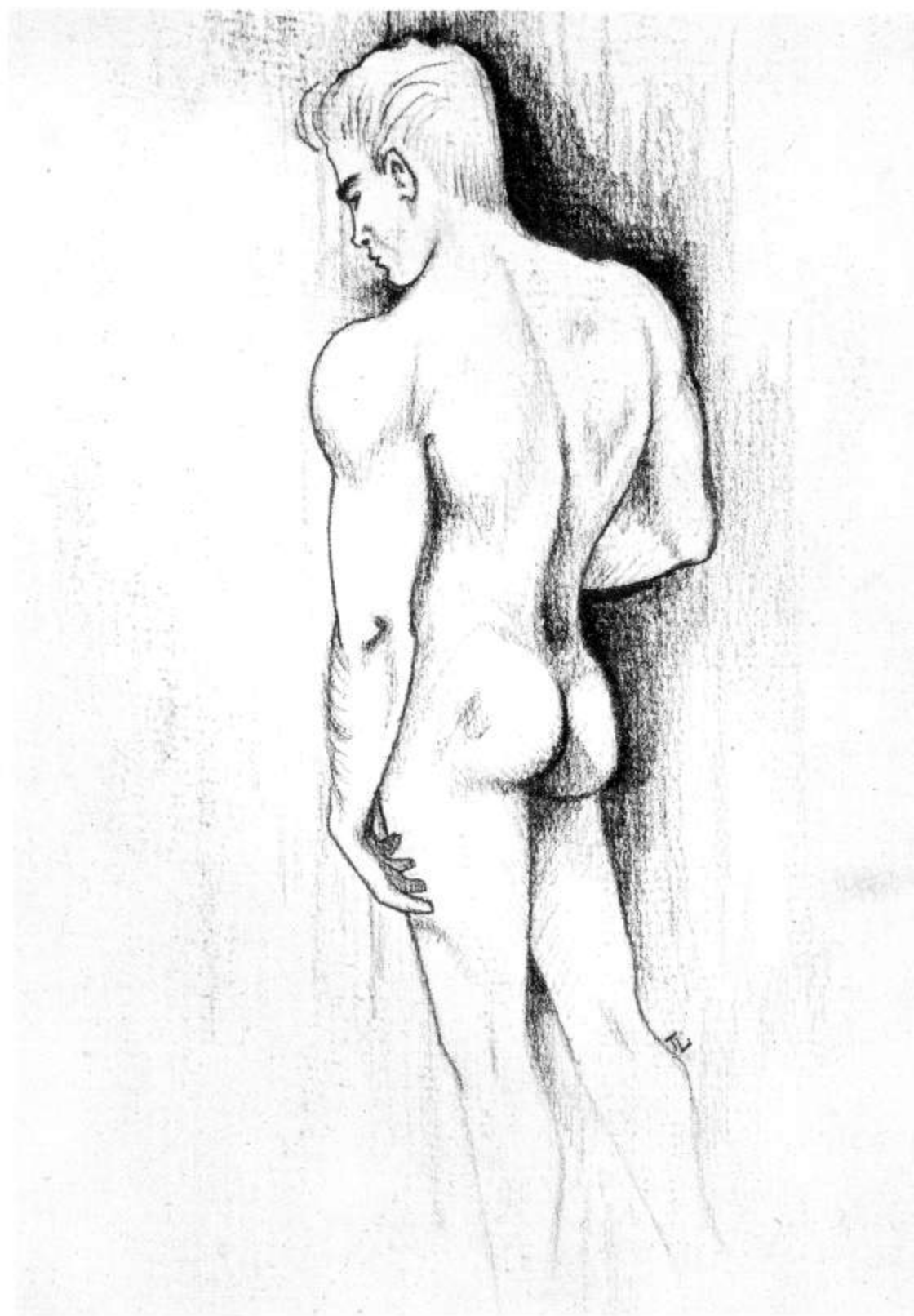
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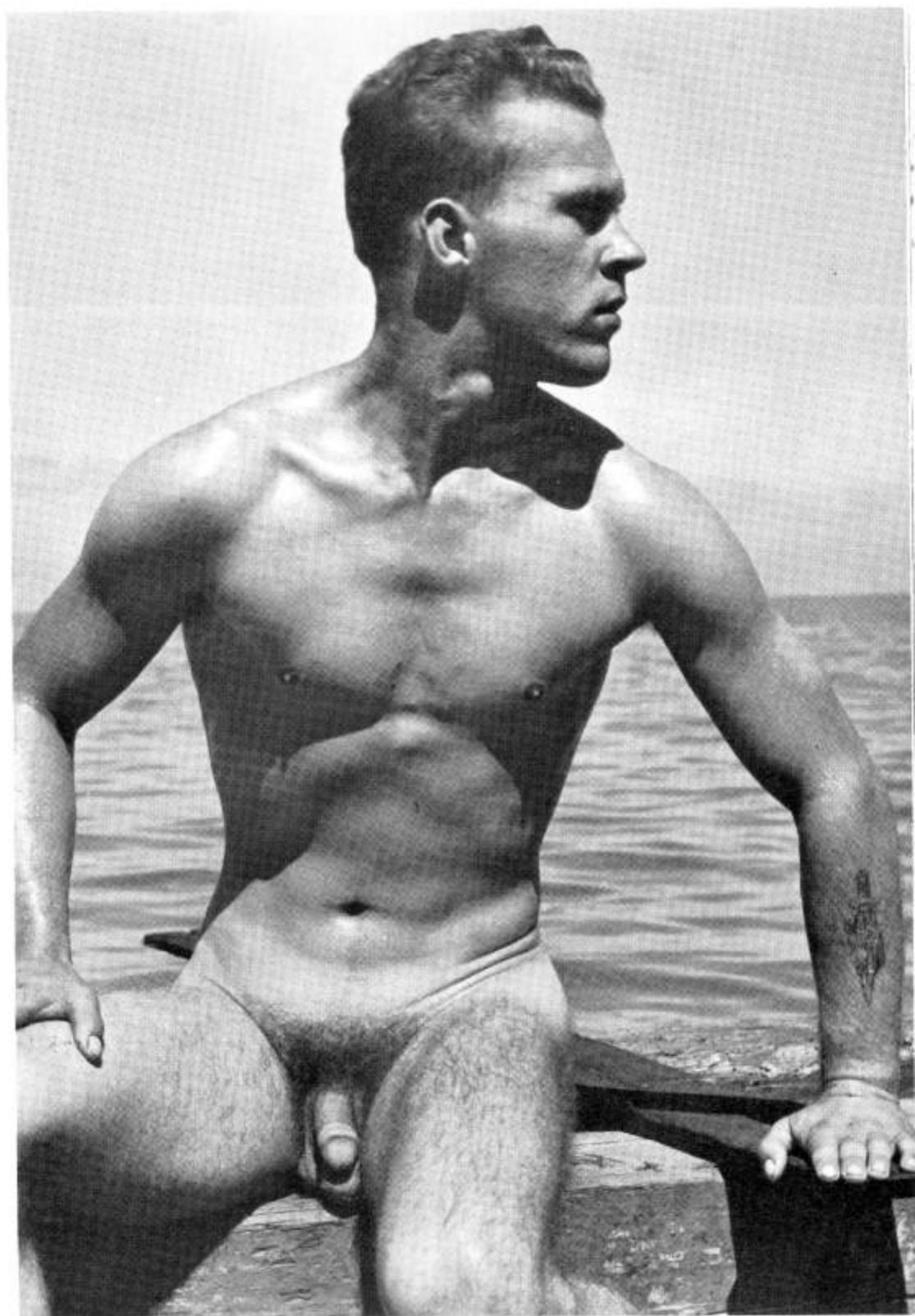
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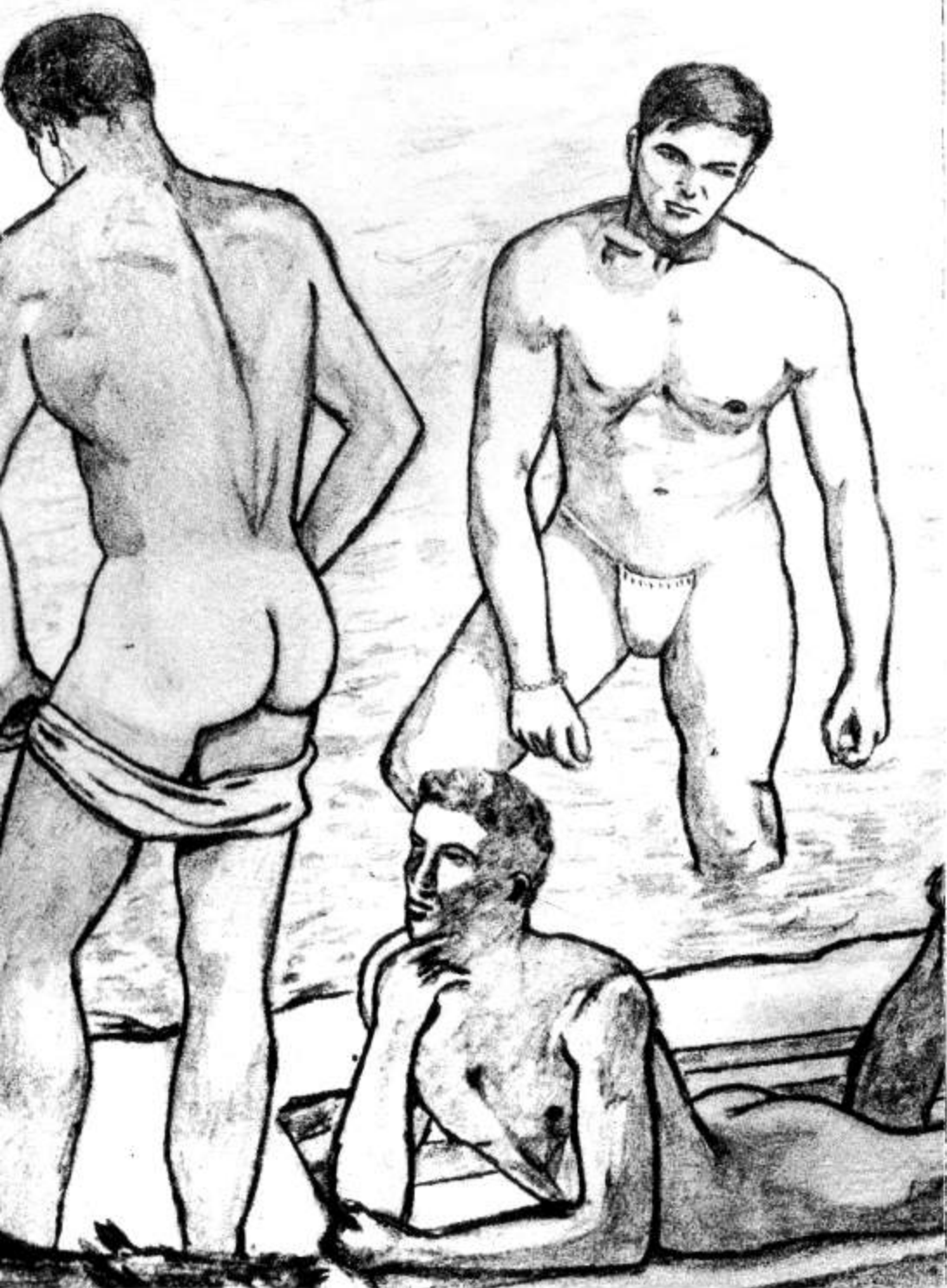


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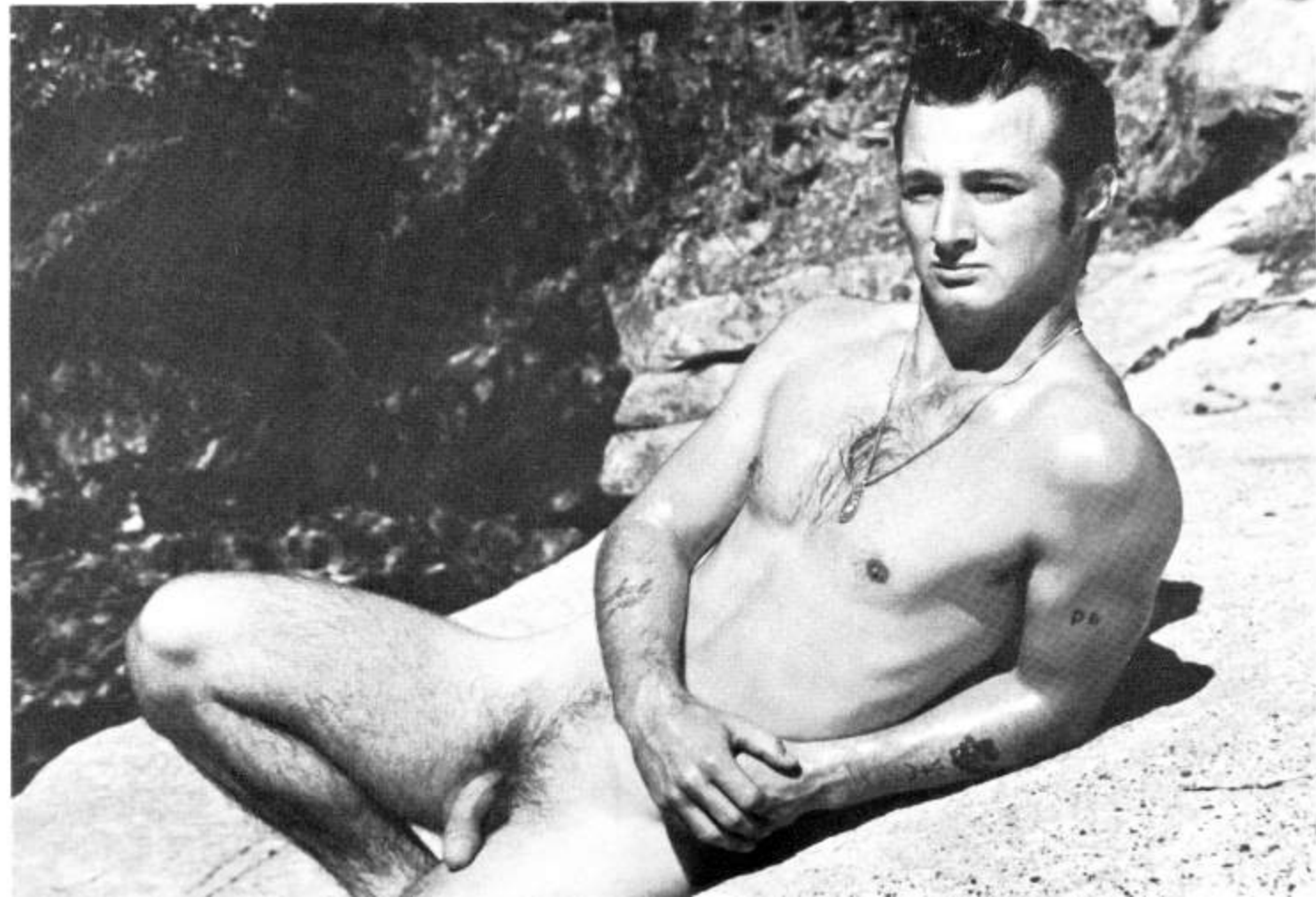






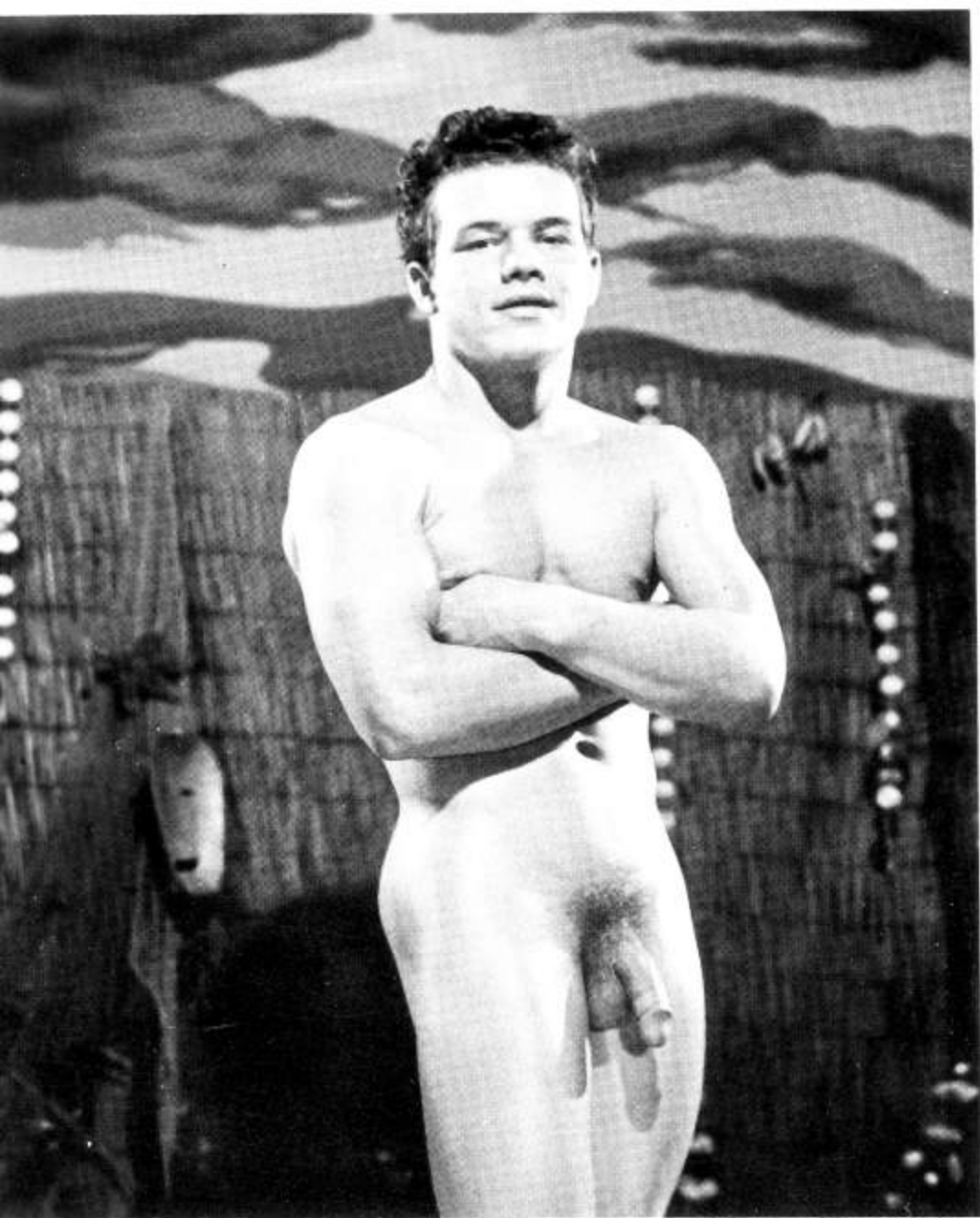












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Inconsistency or Ignorance ?

Speaking of Adam and Eve, the Biblical record in Genesis states: "So God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He them... and they (Adam and Eve) were both naked, the man and his wife, and they were not ashamed." The account goes on to say that after they transgressed they made aprons of fig leaves because they were naked. But it appears before this they were perfectly happy, contented and unashamed.

In 1st Samuel, Chapter 19, it says of Saul: "The Spirit of God was upon him also and he went out and prophesied... and he stripped off his clothes, and prophesied in like manner, and lay down naked all day and all the night." It hardly seems that if the practice of nudity was as wrong as it is considered by many today, that a prophet of God would have had anything to do with it. In the New Testament account of where Christ appears to Peter while he was fishing, it plainly says that Peter was naked. Apparently this practice was not to uncommon in those days; a lot of naked people were wandering around, it seems.

Nudism Common in Biblical Days

This practice was not confined to those of lesser status, either. In the account of Christ, when with his disciples, He performed an act of washing His disciples' feet, it says: "He laid aside His garments" when he washed their feet. In those days the garments consisted of a loose robe or cloth wrapped around the body. The garment itself was usually of one or at most two pieces. More than likely this meant his entire garment clothing.

Writers of early church history state that in early Christian years, it was common practice for both men and women to disrobe completely when the ordinance of baptism by immersion was administered. Whether the generative organs had any covering on them at all when people were said to be naked is not too clear. All statements to this effect are entirely modern and are not confirmed by any citations from ancient writings.

Ancients Revered Sex Organs

In many of the ancient customs, the generative organs of the male - penis and testicles - were considered especially sacred as being the source of the seed of life, capable of creating another human being. Because of this, it was customary in Biblical times that the Hebrews, while taking a solemn oath, would take the testes of the person to whom the promise was being made in the palm of the hand. This procedure was as solemn and devout as is the present method of kissing the Bible or holding the right hand elevated in an attitude of calling God to witness the truth and sincerity of the promise. In Genesis, Chapter 24, it says, "Abraham said unto his servant, Put, I pray thee, thy hand under my thigh; and I will make thee swear by the Lord, the God of Heaven." In other places of the Old Testament, mention is made of this same practice. The custom is still existant in parts of Africa and Arabia. It is from this custom that our words testify, testament, testimony and cognate terms are derived.

The female breasts and womb have been from the earliest times accorded special veneration. And, also, the female genitalia have been closely connected with sacred and worshipped things. The bosom of woman has been held sacred in all times as the throne of love, the seat of affection - particularly revered by the ancients. In the city on the Tiber, Roman lovers were in the habit of having their drinking cups moulded after the shape of the breasts of their sweethearts. A cast of the breast was taken and served as the mould for the cup which was often made of or covered with gold.

One writer has said that, "the bosom of the woman exhausts the possibilities of form-beauty and that nothing more exquisitely beautiful can be imagined". Emerson, in one of his essays, said, "The circle of the woman's breast is the highest emblem in the cipher of the world".

Another writer says: "Modern science maintains that the highest manipulation of life to which all other manifestations are subordinated is the ovum or egg. In scientific sense, the human ovum then the ovary which produces it in the womb in which it develops into a child, and consequently in a wider sense, Woman, who contains them all is symbolic of the best and greatest achievement of creative power in nature." He continues, "The sexual organs and the sacredness of the act they symbolize, have from the earliest history of mankind been among the most deeply regarded of all created things." From the earliest civilization, the generative organs of both male and female were venerated because they were the seat of power and the union of the sexes came to be regarded as a momentary union with God.

Sex Object of Divine Worship

One noted authority tells us that it is by no means surprising that this wondrous and omnipotent act should have been made the object of divine worship and today this union of the sexes is solemnized with religious ceremonies in continued recognition of its holiness. According to law, marriage is simply an oral contract executed before a duly qualified officer of the law or a clergyman. The nuptial tie is held to be a divine bond - "Those whom God hath joined together, let not man put asunder". To engage in the act of generation in the absence of such consecrationary rites, is regarded as wrong or a crime even as it was four or five thousand years ago.

The veneration of the sex organs is recognized as the basis of many religious beliefs and the representation of the phallus, the erect or pendant penis, and the yoni, or vagina, and the woman's breasts have found their way into both ancient and modern church architecture. Consider

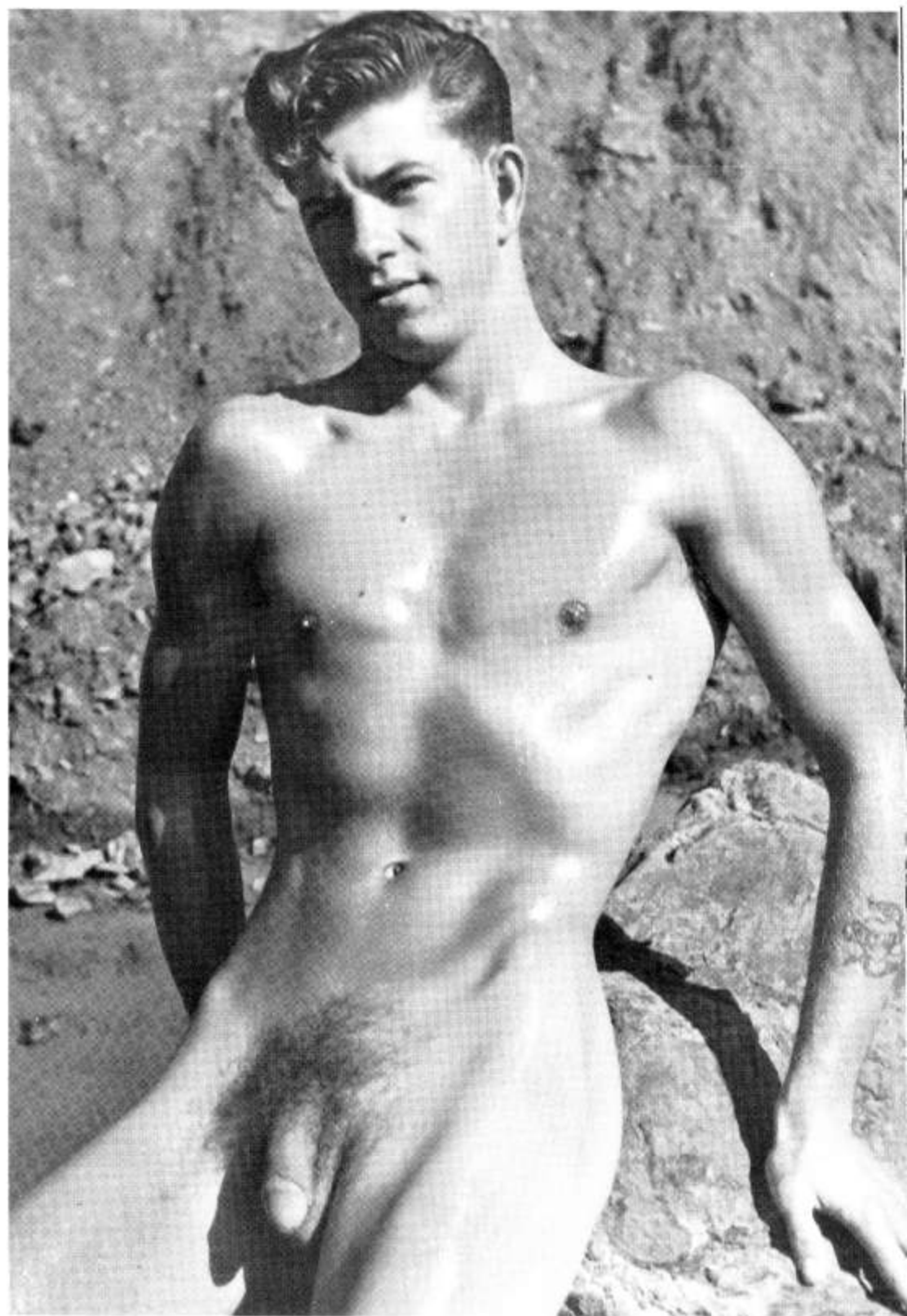
the spire or steeple, representing so some believe, to be the erect penis; the oval nave leading to the altar or chancel representing the vagina; the circles in design on furniture and pulpit and stained glass windows resembling the breasts. Architects and scientists now are frank to admit that there is fully as much such symbolism to be found in modern church structures as can be found among the older temples of worship.

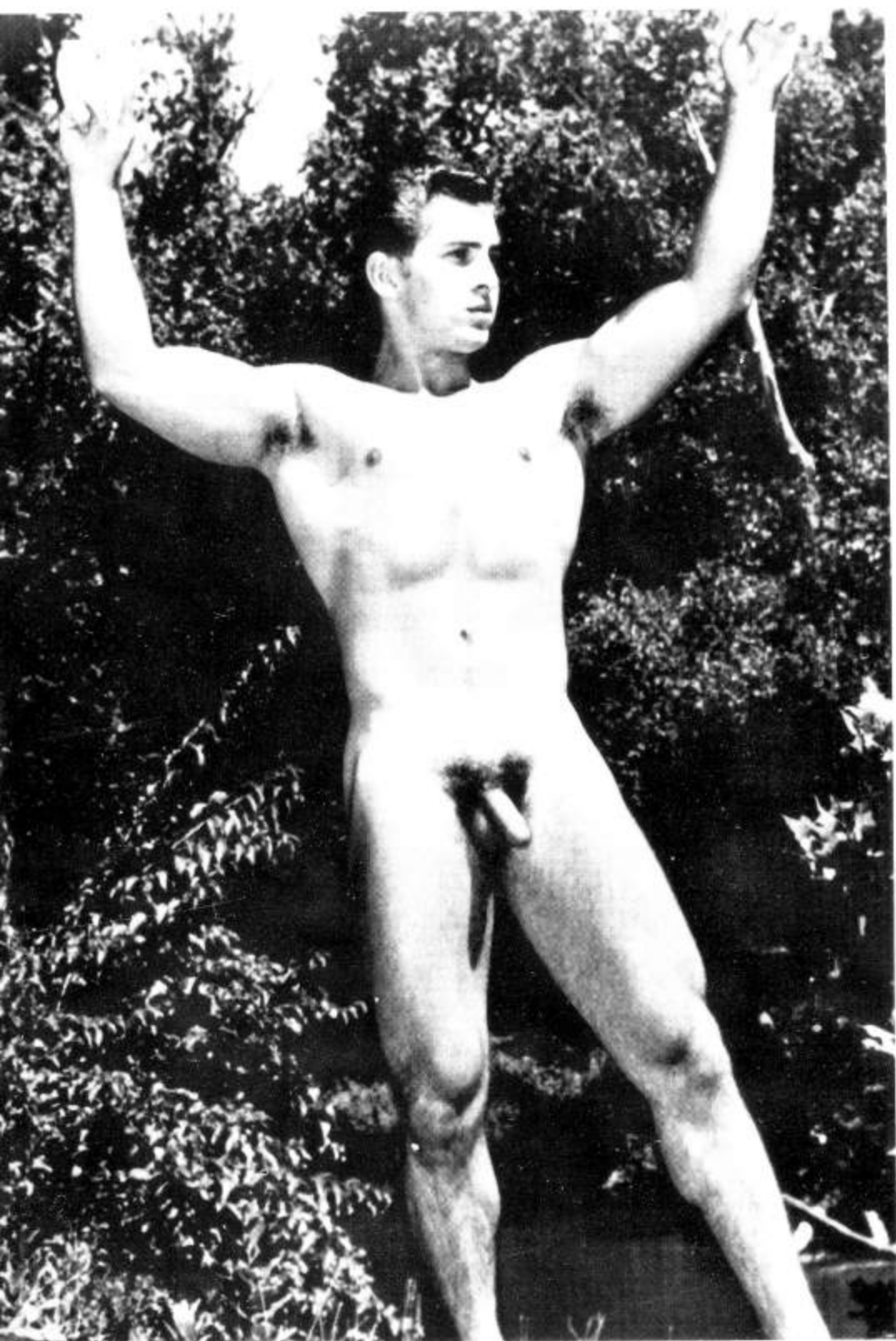
Phallic Symbols are Universal

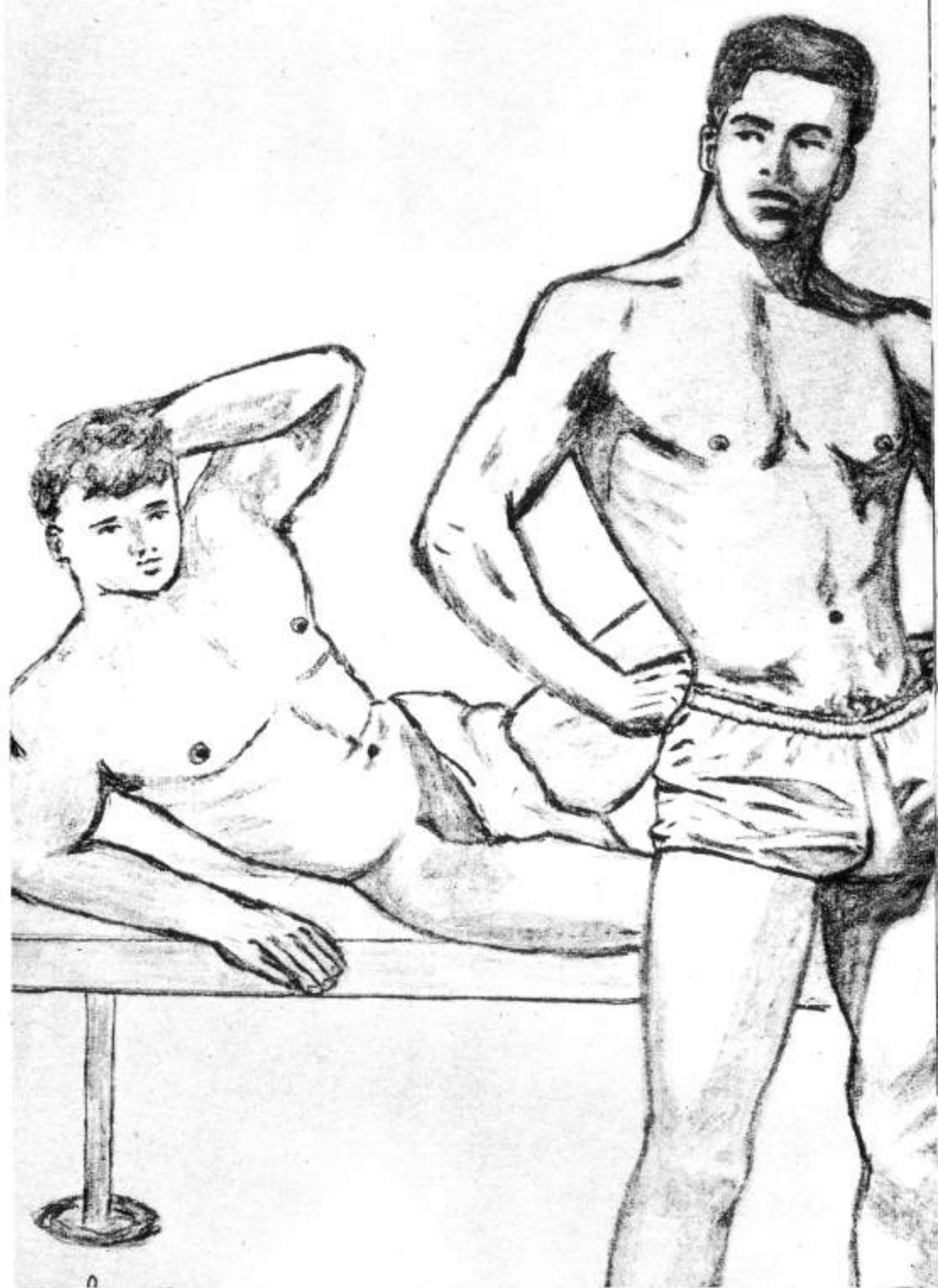
It must be remembered that there was no sense of shame attached to the use of these sexual symbols of creative power. They were, and still are used, without any intent at erotic meaning. It should be clearly obvious that no impropriety or obscenity could ever be attached to their use. Among the ancient Greeks, the male generative organs (including testicles) were referred to as the phallus. The veneration of the phallus dates back into unrecorded time. Even the earliest records of the Egyptians and Hindus refer to it as an ancient institution. The symbol of the erect penis is shown in the building of obelisks, monuments, shrines and towers.

The most important of the images denoting the symbol of the regenerative organs of man were the pillar or obelisk. The two stones at the base signified the testicles. In writing, the "tau cross" was shaped in the letter T and saw much use in both writing and design. Ethnologists agree that the cross, especially the "tau cross" as a symbol dates back to the remotest period of history. It was used both ways - upright or inverted. But in all its varied forms and shapes, it is after all merely a representation of symbol denoting the generative organs of man.

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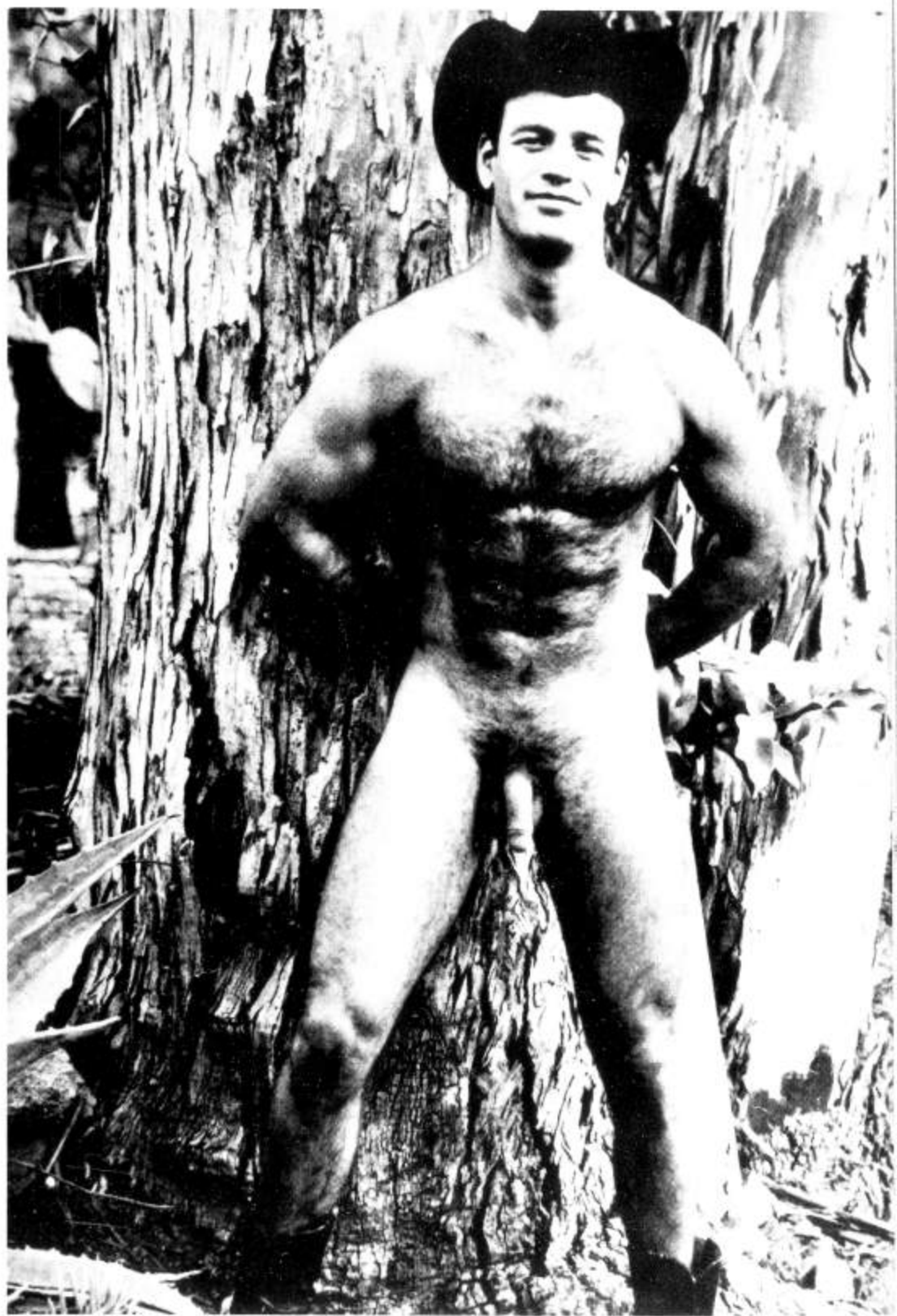




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